Eien Scans

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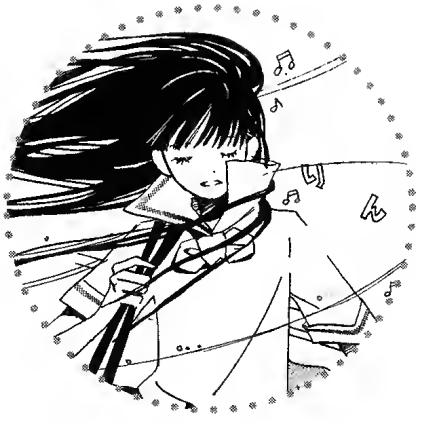
Spica

Initial short stories
collection
by Chica Umino

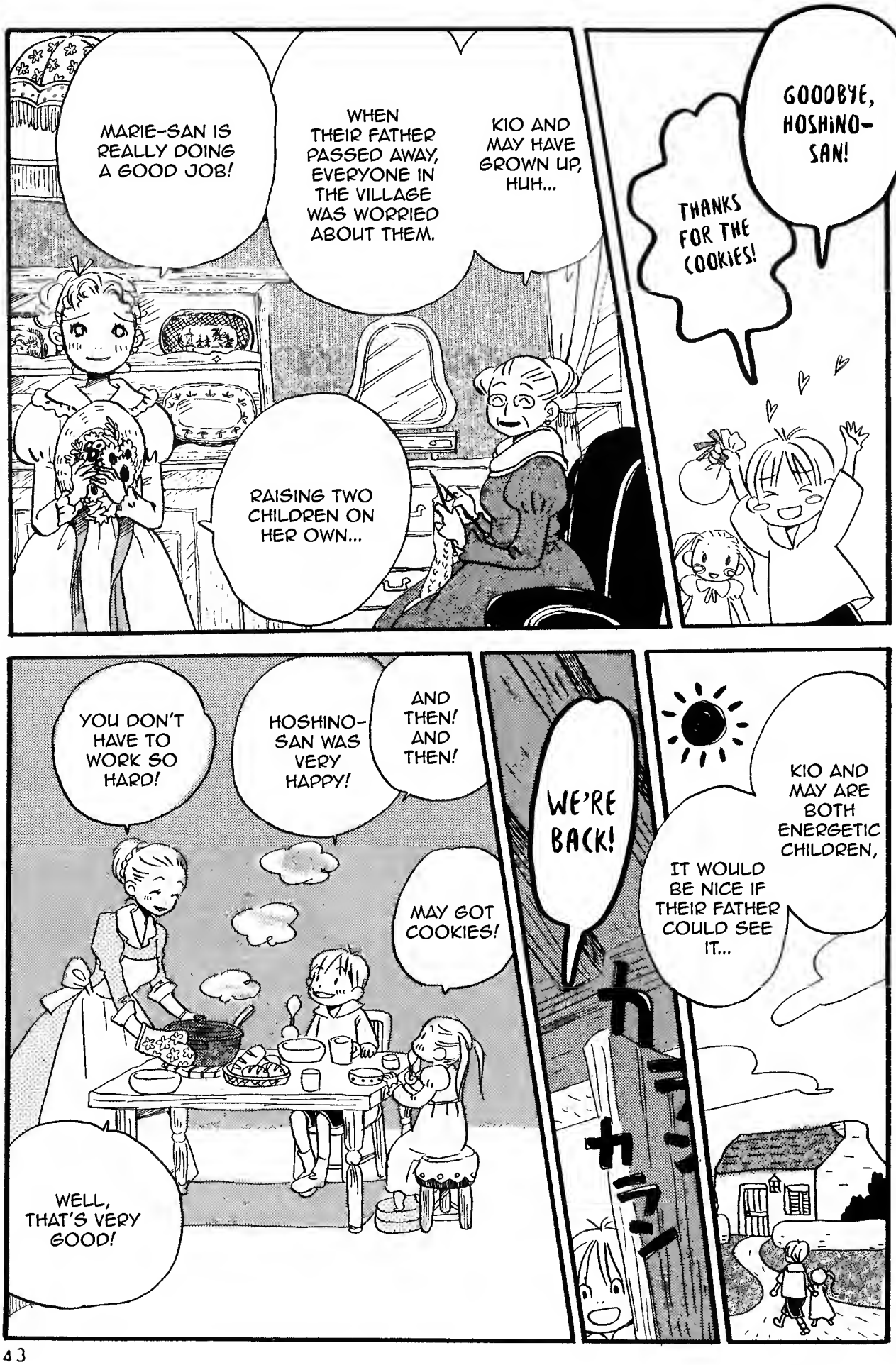


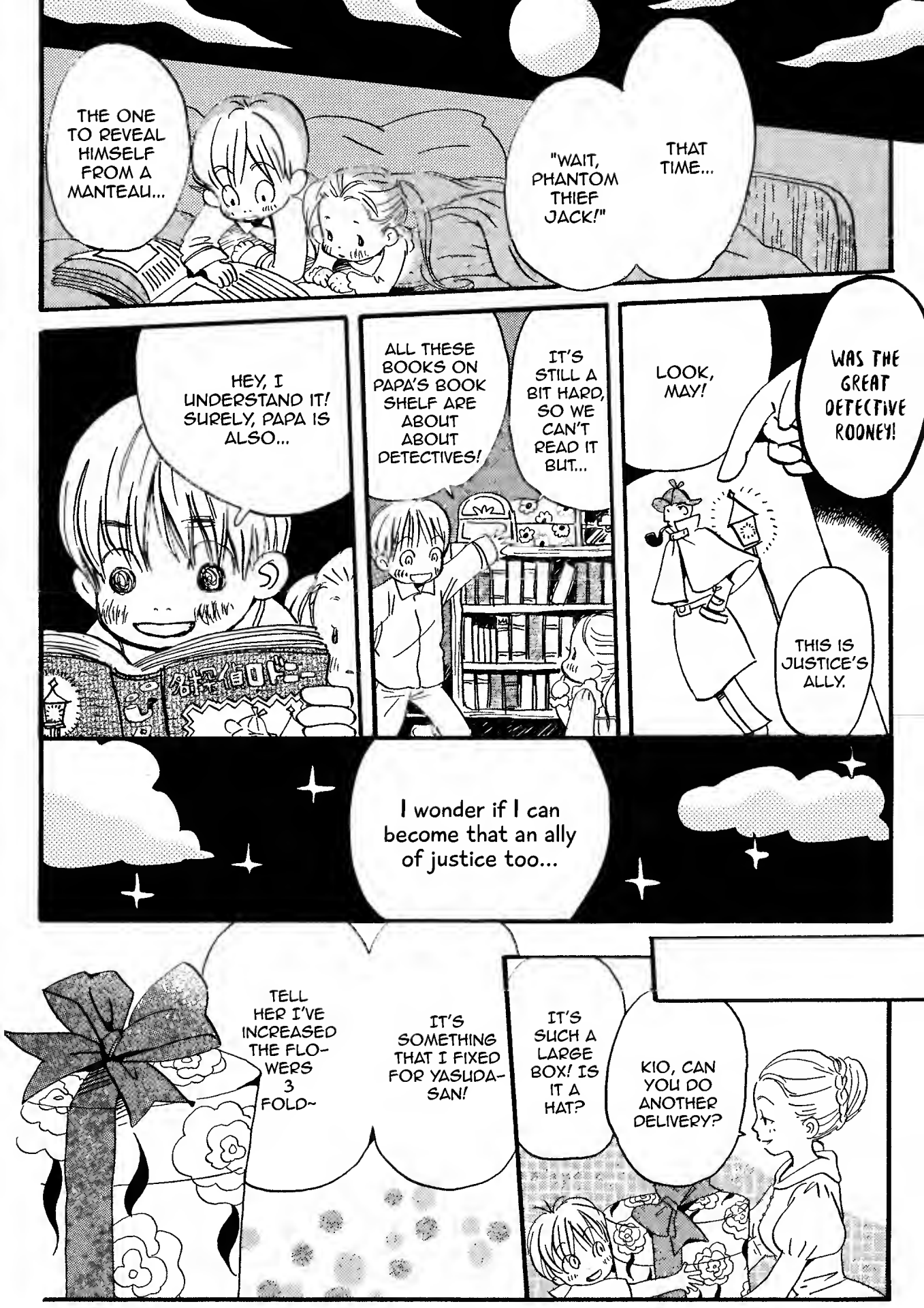
Spica

Initial short stories
collection
by Chica Umino

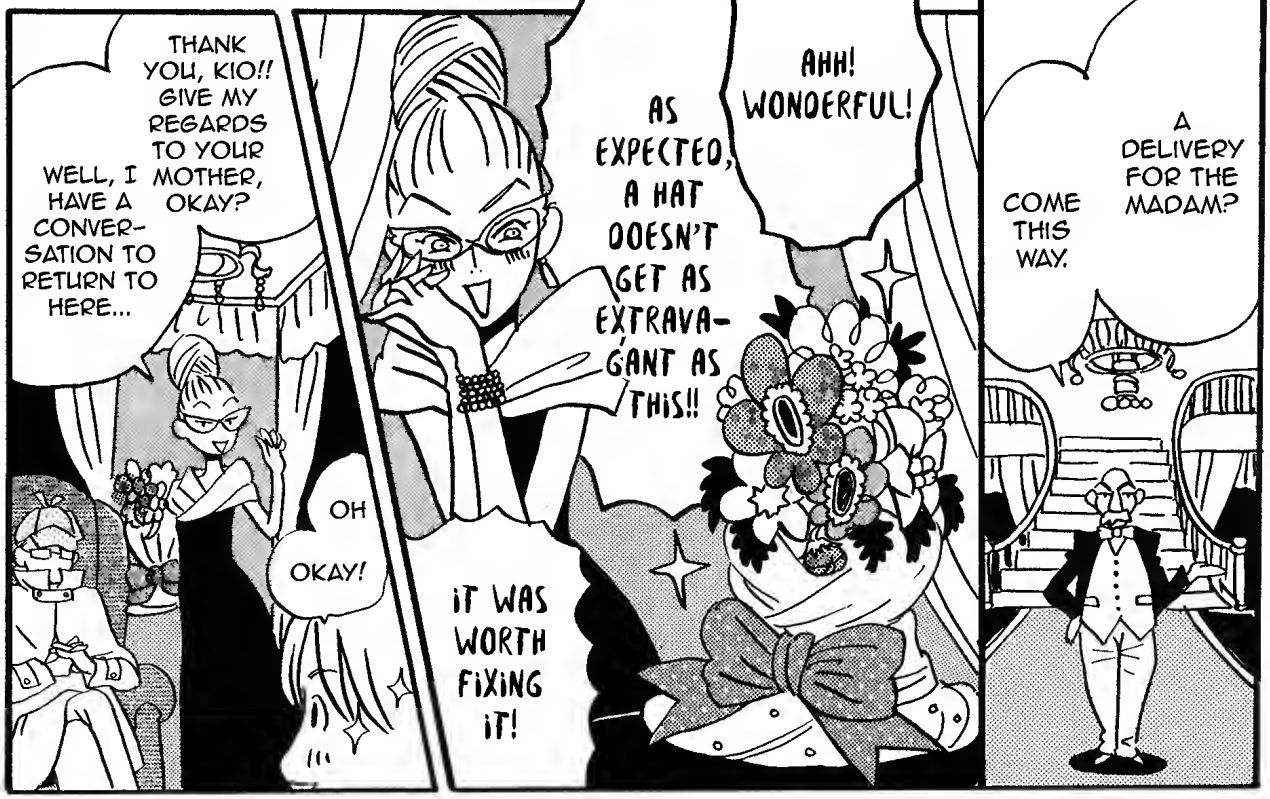
midori no koiru

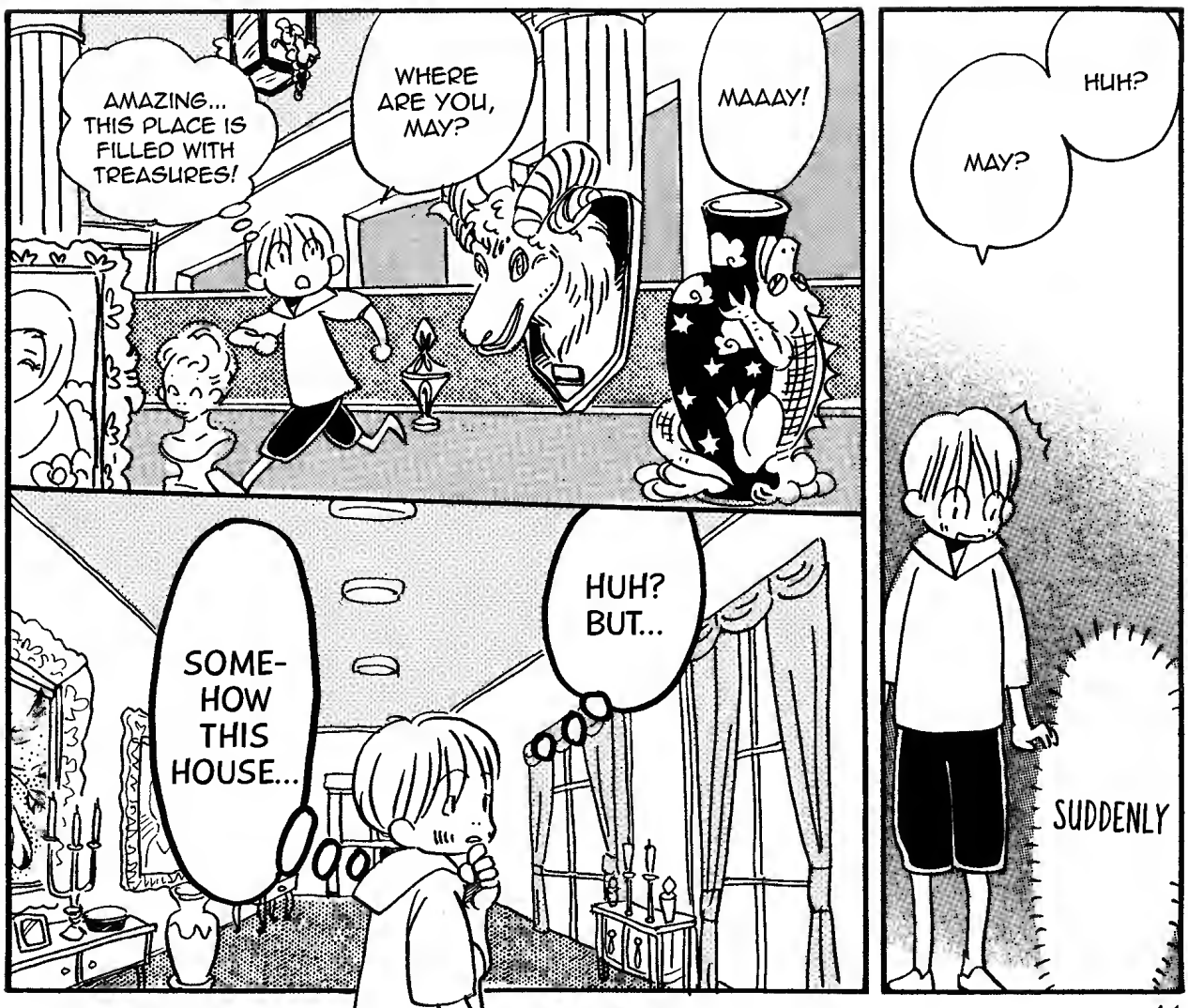
HELLO, HOSHINO-SAN!
THE THINGS YOU ORDERED HAVE ARRIVED!
I'M GLAD I WAITED!
IS IT OK IF I OPEN IT RIGHT NOW?
KIO, MAY... HERE ARE COOKIES I BAKED!
TELL YOUR MOTHER IF SHE NEEDS ANYTHING, THEN BY ALL MEANS...
KIO,
AH!!
IT REALLY IS GREAT!
AH! IT'S WONDER-FUL!
THIS HAT AND DRESS THAT MARIE-SAN MADE IS REALLY FASHION-ABLE!

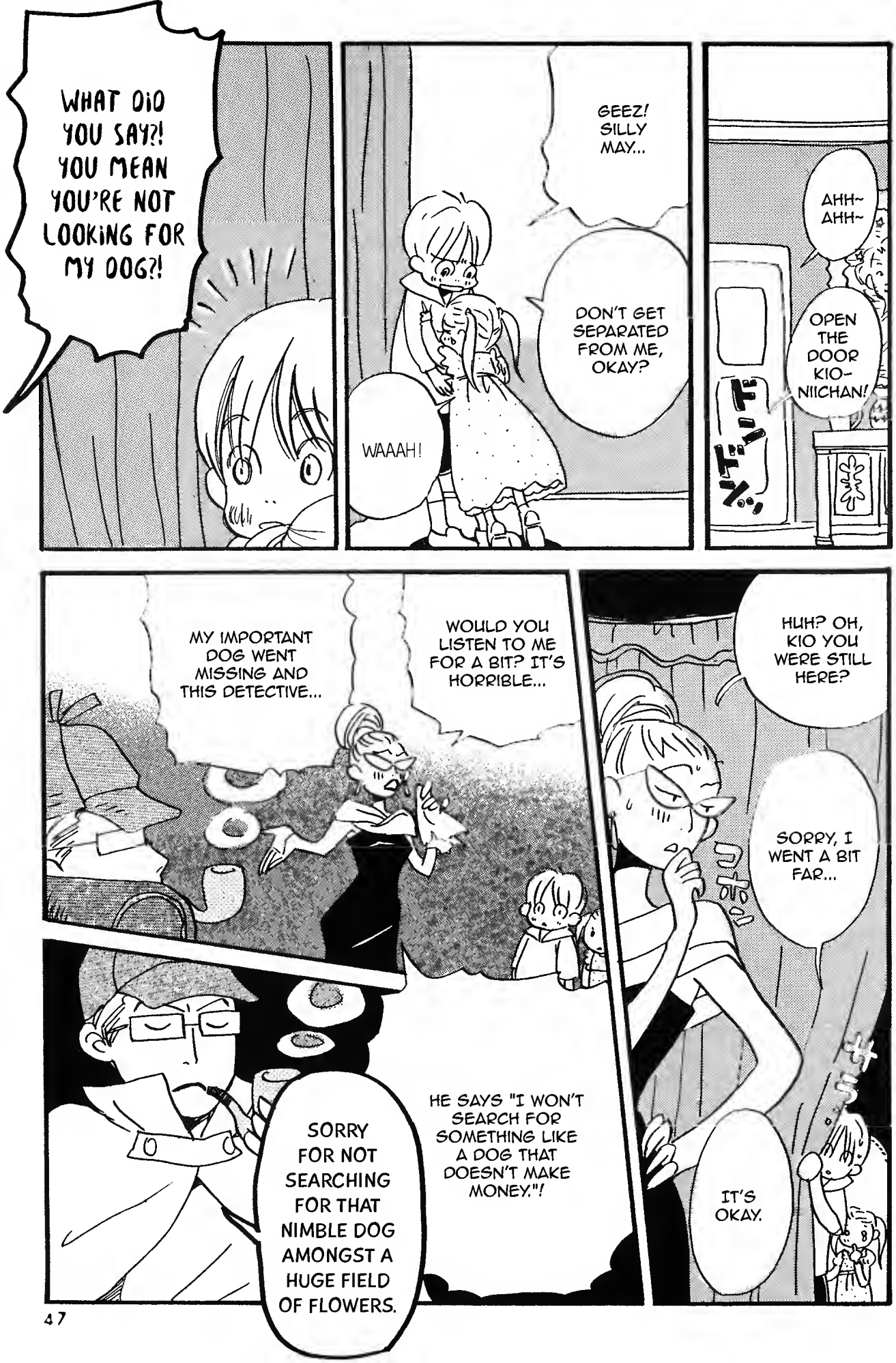

MARIE-SAN IS REALLY DOING A GOOD JOB!
WHEN THEIR FATHER PASSED AWAY, EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE WAS WORRIED ABOUT THEM.
KIO AND MAY HAVE GROWN UP, HUH...
RAISING TWO CHILDREN ON HER OWN...
GOODBYE, HOSHINO-SAN!
THANKS FOR THE COOKIES!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK SO HARD!
HOSHINO-SAN WAS VERY HAPPY!
AND THEN! AND THEN!
MAY GOT COOKIES!
WELL, THAT'S VERY GOOD!
WE'RE BACK!
KIO AND MAY ARE BOTH ENERGETIC CHILDREN,
IT WOULD BE NICE IF THEIR FATHER COULD SEE IT...


THE ONE TO REVEAL HIMSELF FROM A MANTEAU...
"WAIT, PHANTOM THIEF JACK!"
THAT TIME...
HEY, I UNDERSTAND IT! SURELY, PAPA IS ALSO...
ALL THESE BOOKS ON PAPA'S BOOK SHELF ARE ABOUT ABOUT DETECTIVES!
IT'S STILL A BIT HARD, SO WE CAN'T READ IT BUT...
LOOK, MAY!
WAS THE GREAT DETECTIVE ROONEY!
THIS IS JUSTICE'S ALLY.
I wonder if I can become that an ally of justice too...
TELL HER I'VE INCREASED THE FLO-WERS 3 FOLD~
IT'S SOMETHING THAT I FIXED FOR YASUDA-SAN!
IT'S SUCH A LARGE BOX! IS IT A HAT?
KIO, CAN YOU DO ANOTHER DELIVERY?

KIO, CARRY ME~
GEEZ... I TOLD YOU ALREADY... NOT UNTIL WE ARRIVE THERE.
LOOK! THAT'S YASUDA-SAN'S MANSION.
WE'RE CLOSE, SO JUST HOLD ON...
OH MY~
SEE, MAY?
COOL!
IT'S A DETEC-TIVE, THE REAL THING!
HE'S GOING OVER TO YASUDA-SAN'S HOME...
WHAT HAPPENED? SOME KIND OF INCIDENT MAYBE?
IT REALLY IS A LARGE HOUSE, HUH?
I CAN'T SEE OVER THAT OTHER SIDE!


A DELIVERY FOR THE MADAM?
COME THIS WAY.
AHH! WONDERFUL!
AS EXPECTED, A HAT DOESN'T GET AS EXTRAVAGANT AS THIS!!
IT WAS WORTH FIXING IT!
THANK YOU, KIO!! GIVE MY REGARDS TO YOUR MOTHER, OKAY?
WELL, I HAVE A CONVERSATION TO RETURN TO HERE...
OH OKAY!


HUH?
MAY?
SUDDENLY
MAAAY!
WHERE ARE YOU, MAY?
AMAZING... THIS PLACE IS FILLED WITH TREASURES!
HUH? BUT...
SOME-HOW THIS HOUSE...

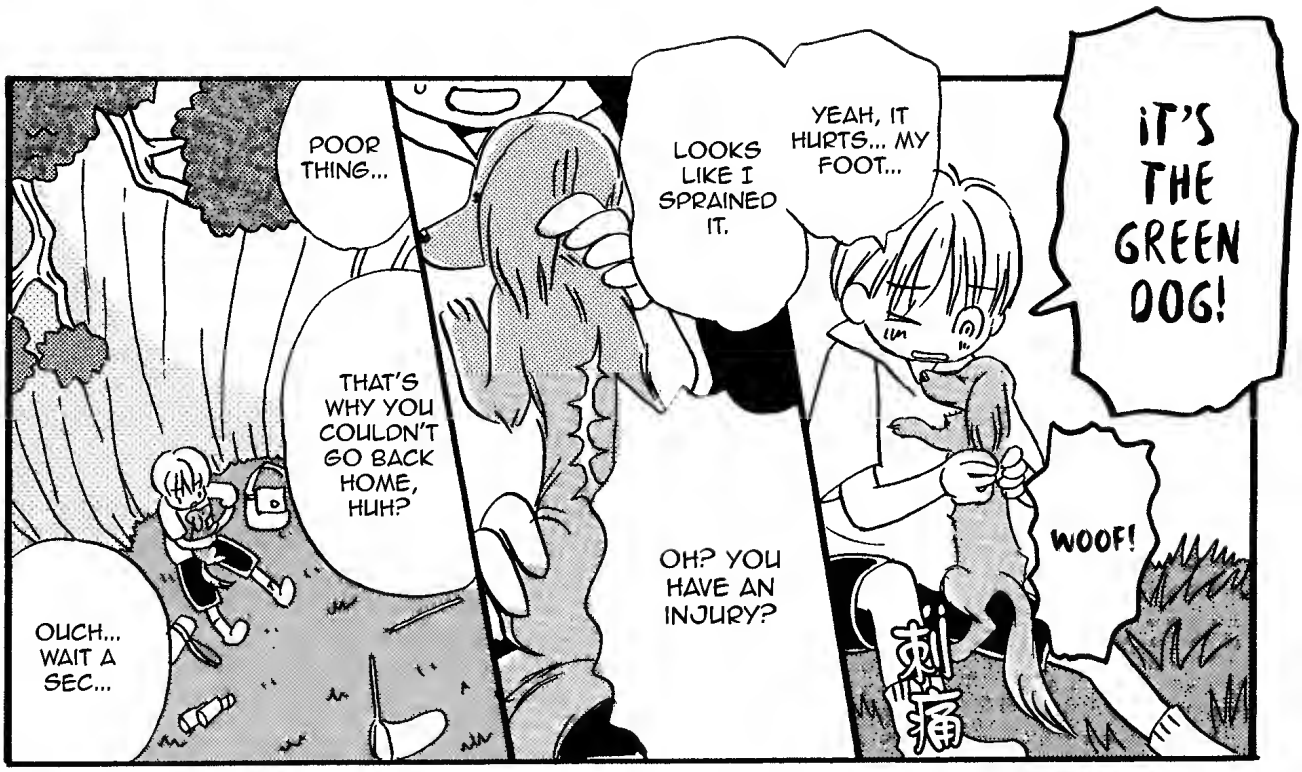

WHAT DID YOU SAY?! YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT LOOKING FOR MY DOG?!
GEEZ! SILLY MAY...
DON'T GET SEPARATED FROM ME, OKAY?
WAAAH!
AHH~ AHH~
OPEN THE DOOR KIO-NIICHAN!
MY IMPORTANT DOG WENT MISSING AND THIS DETECTIVE...
WOULD YOU LISTEN TO ME FOR A BIT? IT'S HORRIBLE...
HUH? OH, KIO YOU WERE STILL HERE?
SORRY, I WENT A BIT FAR...
IT'S OKAY.
HE SAYS "I WON'T SEARCH FOR SOMETHING LIKE A DOG THAT DOESN'T MAKE MONEY."!
SORRY FOR NOT SEARCHING FOR THAT NIMBLE DOG AMONGST A HUGE FIELD OF FLOWERS.

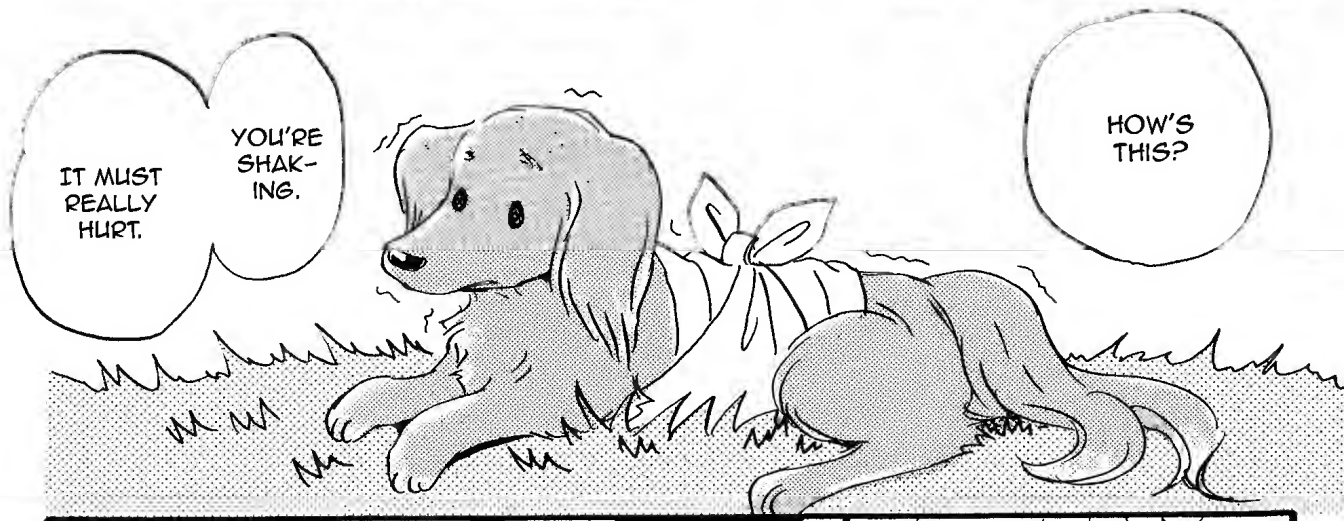
YASUDA-SAN!
LET ME LOOK FOR THAT DOG, PLEASE!
I ALREADY GAVE UP.
HE'S PROBABLY LONG GONE... EATEN BY WOLVES OR SOMETHING.
ALSO, HE WAS JUST A PUPPY, RIGHT? HE'S BEEN GONE FOR TWO NIGHTS.
"DETECTIVES ARE ALLIES OF JUSTICE..."
...
KIO, YOU ARE REALLY A WONDERFUL CHILD! BY ALL MEANS...
...
YOU'D SEARCH FOR IT FOR ME FOR FREE?!
I'LL LOOK AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN AND IF I FIND IT, I WON'T TAKE ANY MONEY!
AFTER ALL, IT'S YOUR PRECIOUS DOG RIGHT?!
ROUGH-LY...
FIRST,
I NEED THE NAME OF THE DOG AND IT'S CHARACTER-ISTICS...

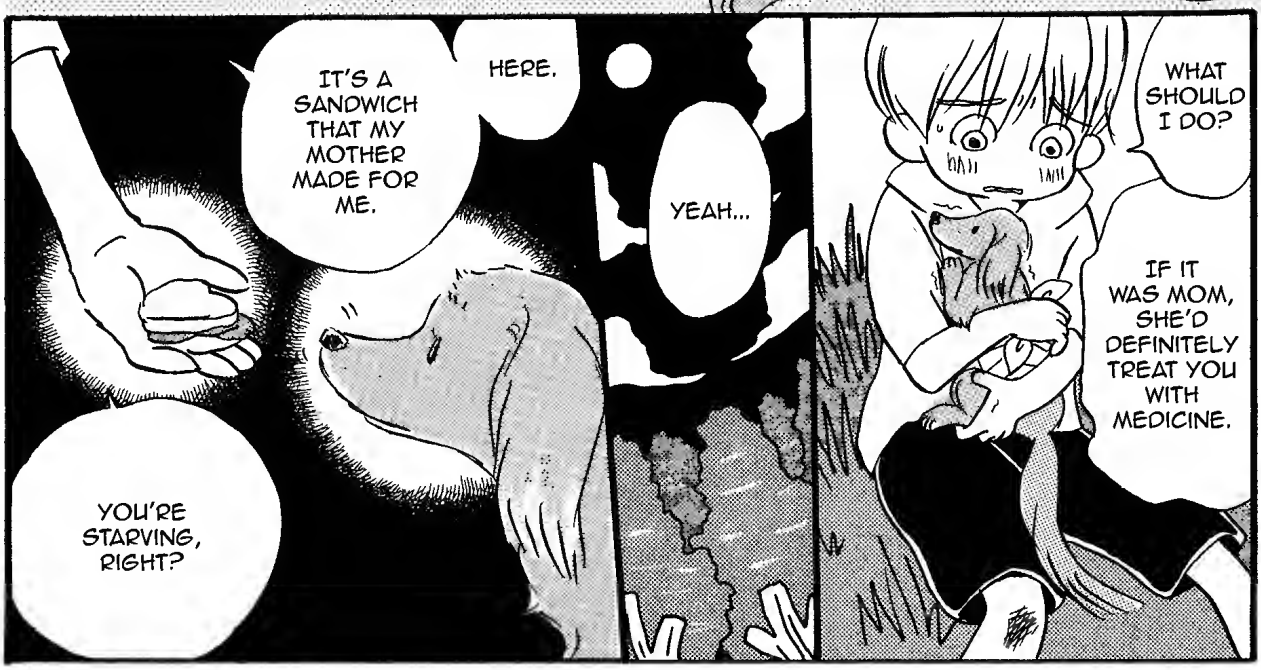
AFTER ALL, THAT DOG
IS ONE OF THE FEW THAT ARE IN THIS WORLD THAT CAN BE DESCRIBED AS "GREEN COLOURED".
IT HAS SPECIAL CHARACTER-ISTICS, BUT IT'S REALLY EXTRA-ORDINARY...
IF YOU CATCH A GLIMPSE OF IT, YOU WILL UNDERSTAND.
HIS NAME, HUH?
HM... AH, IT'S MAFU.
A GREEN COLOURED DOG, HUH...
DO GO TOO FAR IN, OKAY? YOU DON'T WANNA GET LOST!
TO TENTOU MOUNTAIN TO LOOK FOR A LOST DOG!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AH, KIO, YOU LOOK QUITE BRAVE!
I'LL GO FIND IT AND GET IT FOR YOU!
OKAY, HERE I GO!

AH,
IT'S ONLY NOON, BUT IT'S SO DARK.
BUT I'VE GOTTA DO MY BEST AND SEARCH...
MAFU IS ALL ALONE RIGHT NOW, SO HE MUST BE HUNGRY!
AL-RIGHT, LET'S DO THIS!
WELL, DETECTIVE?
WILL YOU SEARCH FOR THE MISSING PUPPY?
IT'LL BE AN AMAZING ADVEN-TURE, HUH?
BUT I WAS SUPPOSED TO HELP YOU TOMORROW, MAMA...
IT'S OKAY KIO, YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING LOTS TO HELP ME!
THIS TIME I'LL BE THE ONE HELPING.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO MAKE LUNCH FOR YOU?
I WAS SO CLOSE.
THERE ARE MANY ANIMALS IN THIS WORLD, THE PHANTOM GREEN DOG, HUH...
IN THIS LARGE WORLD,
MY COMPANY WAS JUST THESE ANIMALS...
HOW IN THE WORLD?
BUT MAMA AND MAY ARE ALSO HERE.
IT'S HOPELESS.

AH!
I wonder where she's going...
HUH?
IT'S YASUDA-SAN!
AAHH!
WOOF!
WOOF!
!!
Aah...
Aah...

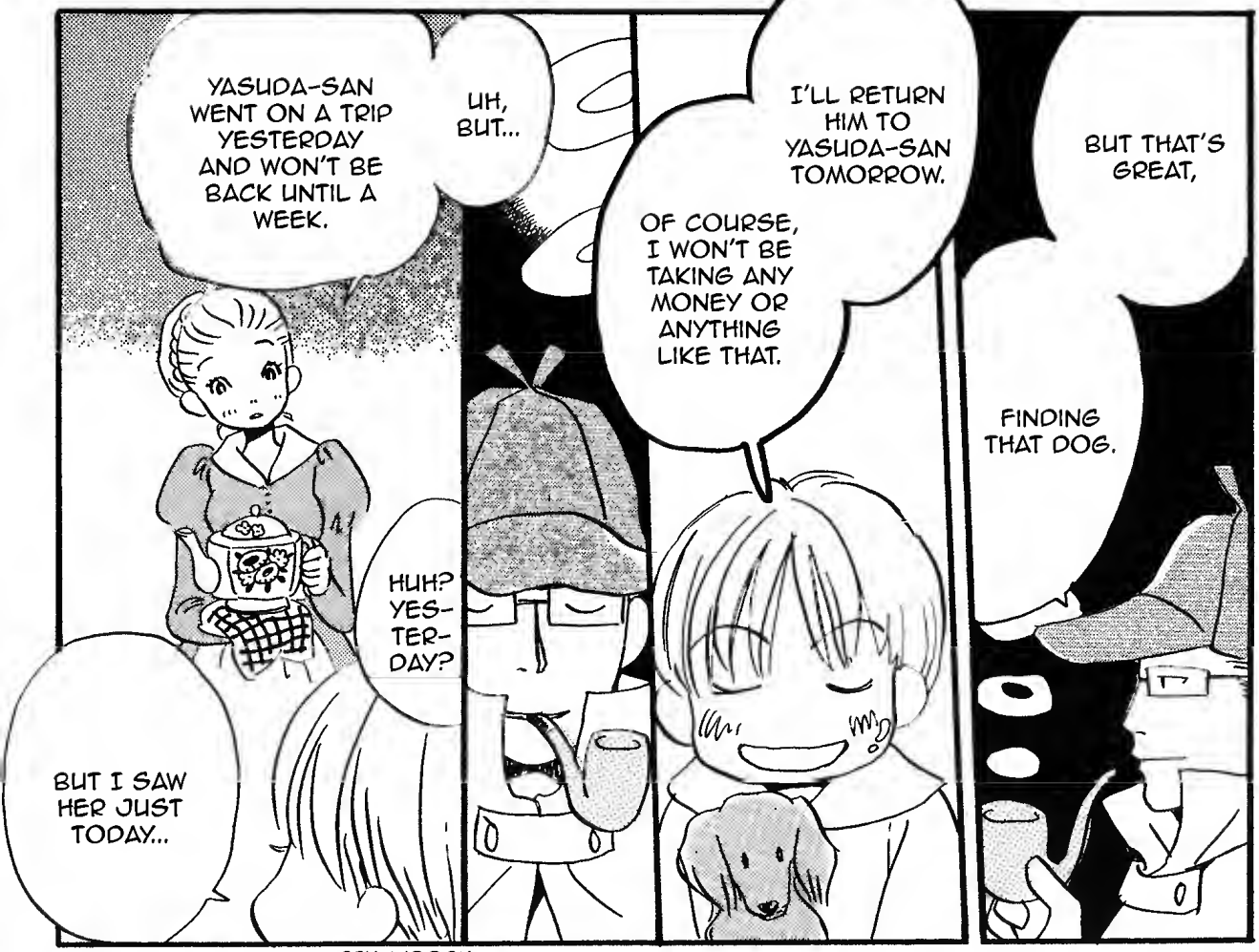

IT'S THE GREEN DOG!
YEAH, IT HURTS... MY FOOT...
LOOKS LIKE I SPRAINED IT.
POOR THING...
THAT'S WHY YOU COULDN'T GO BACK HOME, HUH?
OUCH... WAIT A SEC...
OH? YOU HAVE AN INJURY?
WOOF!
刺痛


HOW'S THIS?
YOU'RE SHAK-ING.
IT MUST REALLY HURT.

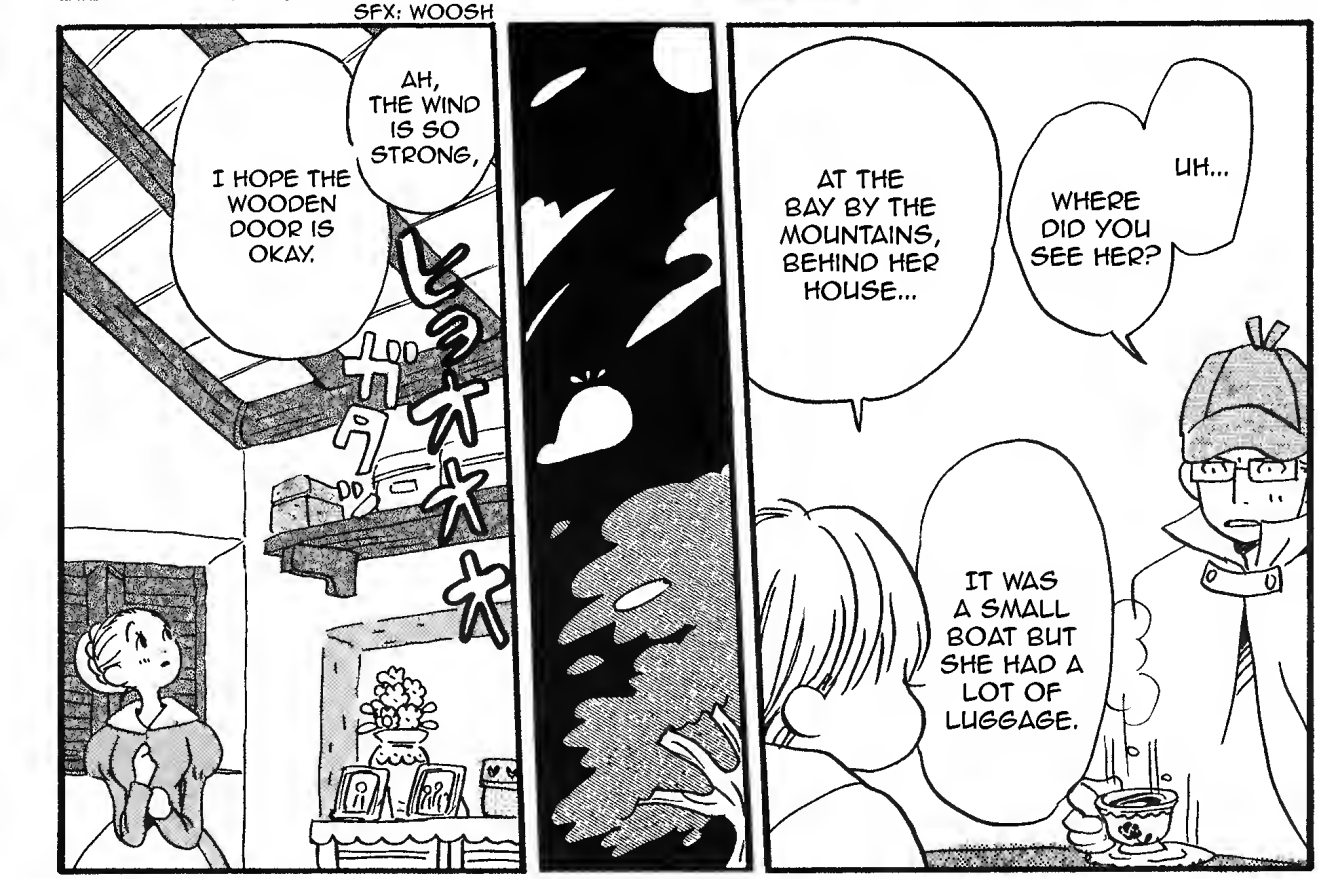

WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IF IT WAS MOM, SHE'D DEFINITELY TREAT YOU WITH MEDICINE.
YEAH...
HERE.
IT'S A SANDWICH THAT MY MOTHER MADE FOR ME.
YOU'RE STARVING, RIGHT?

AH~
THAT TICKLES!
YOU'RE A BIT MORE ENERGETIC NOW, HUH?
IS IT YUMMY? I'M GLAD.
LET'S SPLIT IT IN HALF.
カプ
カプ
IT'S PRETTY WEIRD, ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE PRETTY WARM...
I'M NOT SCARED ANYMORE. I WONDER WHY.
BUT GRADUALLY, IT DISAPPEARED...
IT FELT HOPELESS,
...
HEY.

HEY!
AH, YOU'RE THAT DETECTIVE THAT WAS IN YASUDA-SAN'S HOME.
WELL, I'M GLAD.
I GOT LOST ON THE ROADS IN THE MOUNT-AINS.
I'M GLAD I FOUND YOU THEN.
YOU'RE A SOMEWHAT UNRELIABLE DETECTIVE, HUH?
AH, TURN LEFT AT THAT NEXT TREE.
KIOOOO!!
AH, IT'S MAMA.
HMM, THIS IS FINE.
I'M REALLY GRATEFUL.
YOU WERE LATE COMING BACK, BUT YOU FOUND HIM.


YASUDA-SAN WENT ON A TRIP YESTERDAY AND WON'T BE BACK UNTIL A WEEK.
UH, BUT...
I'LL RETURN HIM TO YASUDA-SAN TOMORROW.
OF COURSE, I WON'T BE TAKING ANY MONEY OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
BUT THAT'S GREAT,
FINDING THAT DOG.
HUH? YES-TER-DAY?
BUT I SAW HER JUST TODAY...

SFX: WOOSH


AH, THE WIND IS SO STRONG,
I HOPE THE WOODEN DOOR IS OKAY.
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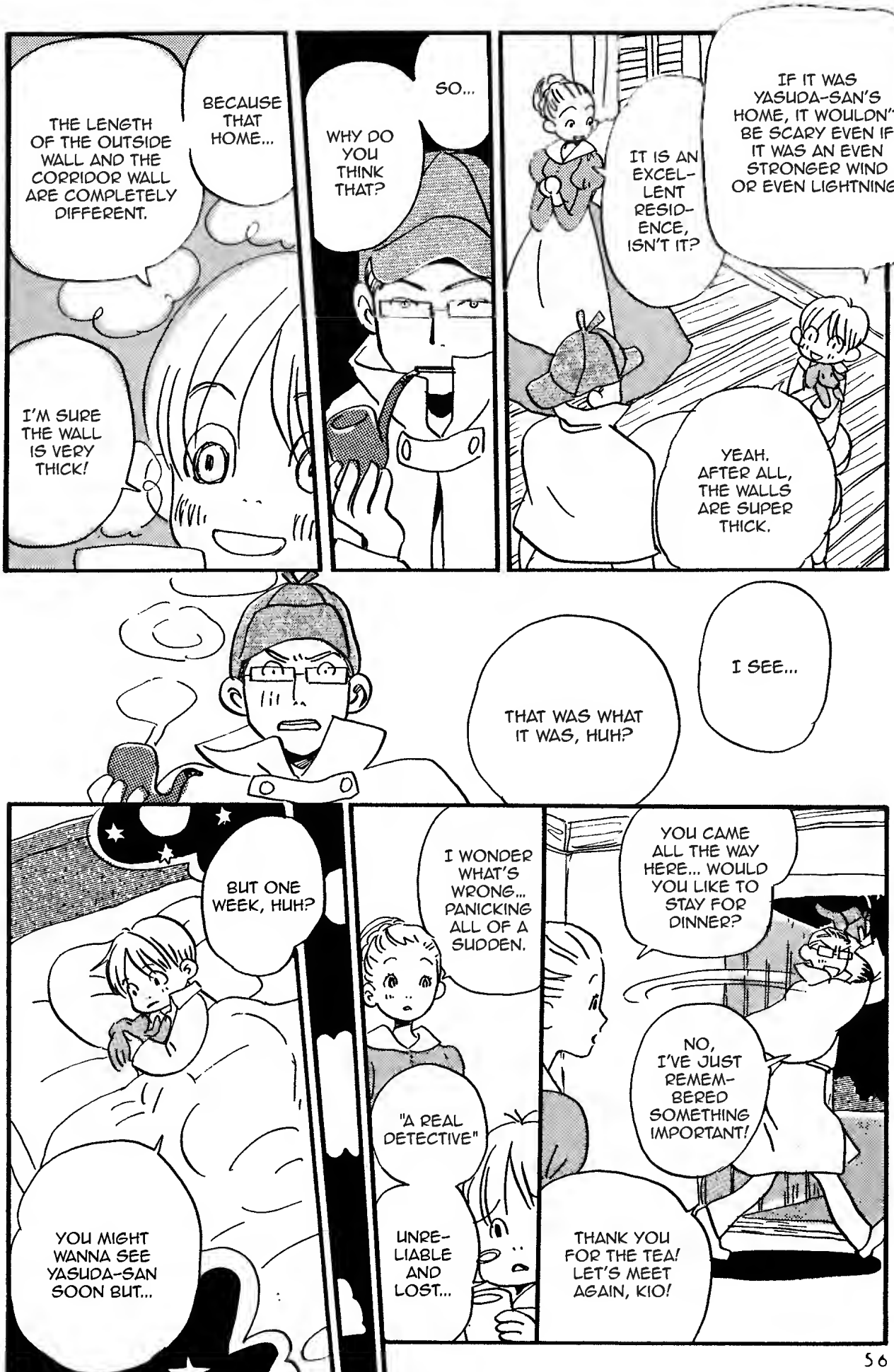
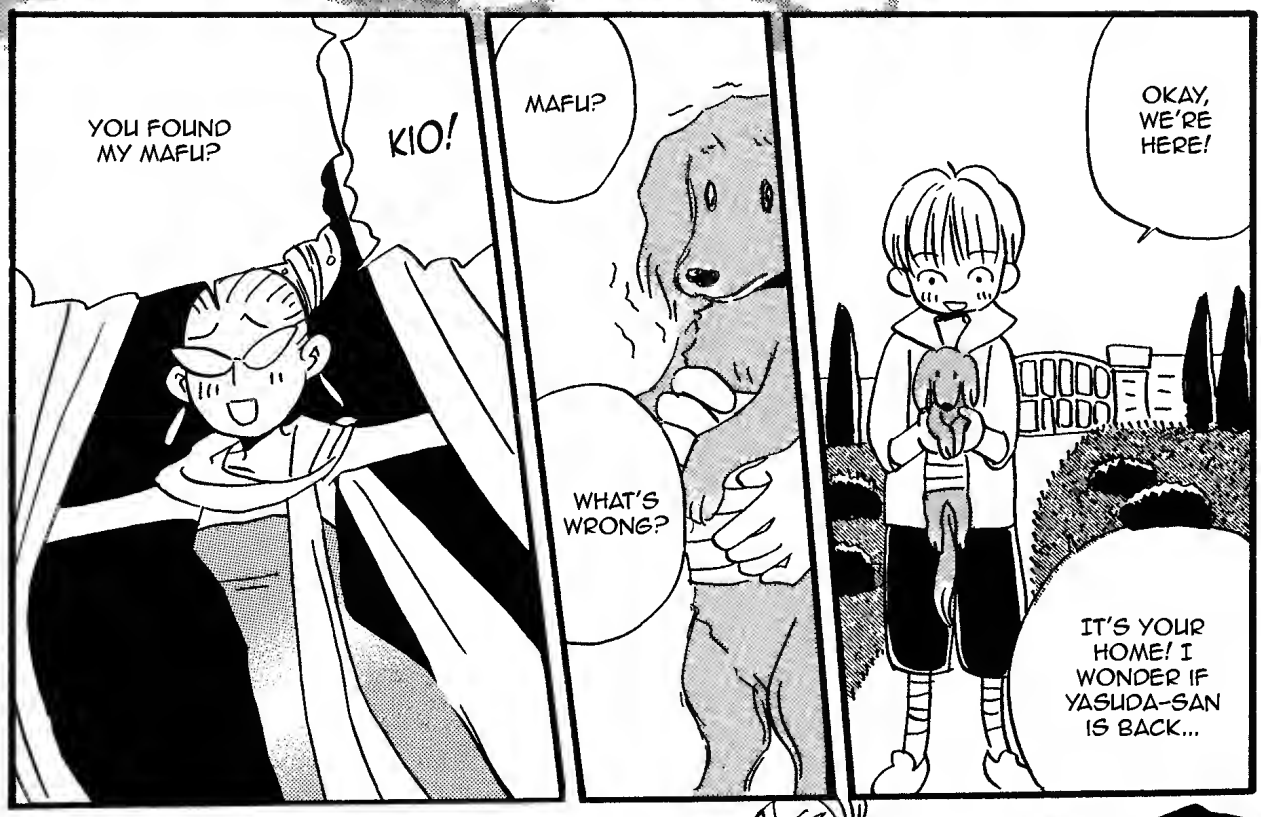
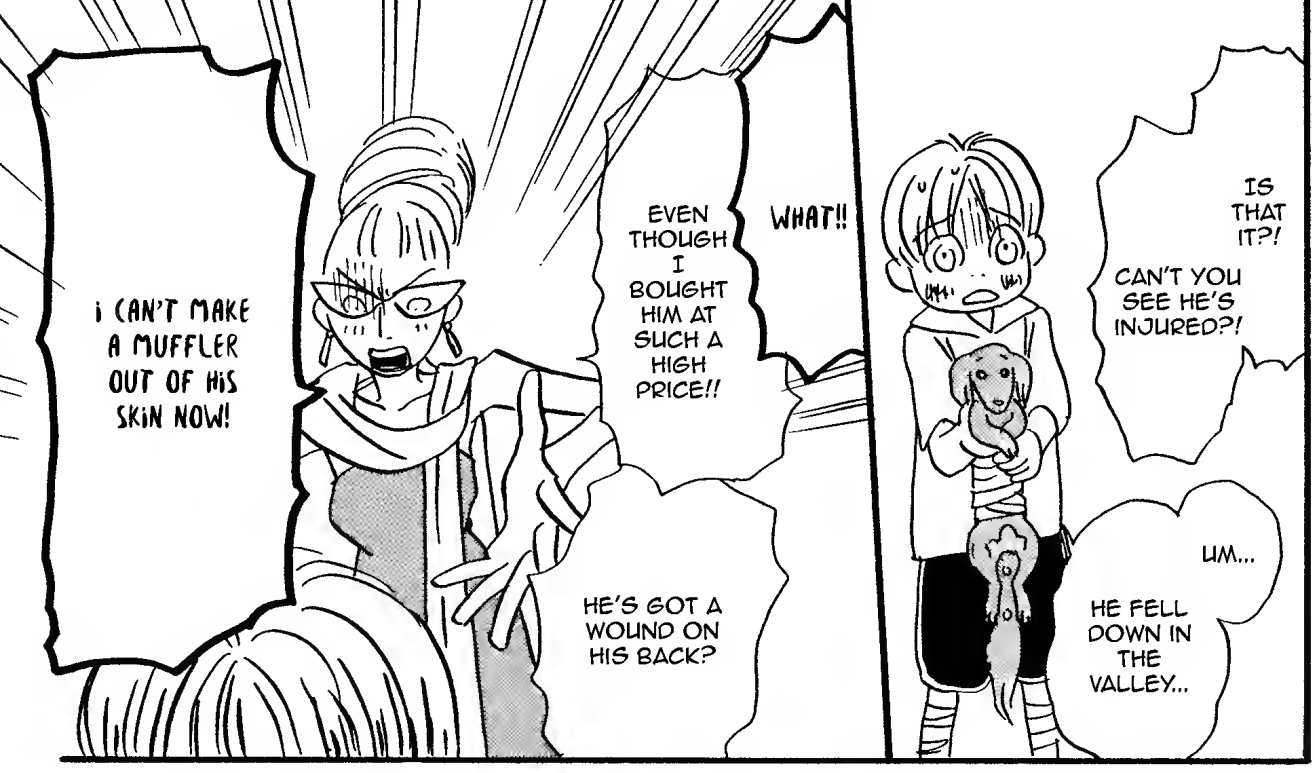
UH...
WHERE DID YOU SEE HER?
AT THE BAY BY THE MOUNTAINS, BEHIND HER HOUSE...
IT WAS A SMALL BOAT BUT SHE HAD A LOT OF LUGGAGE.

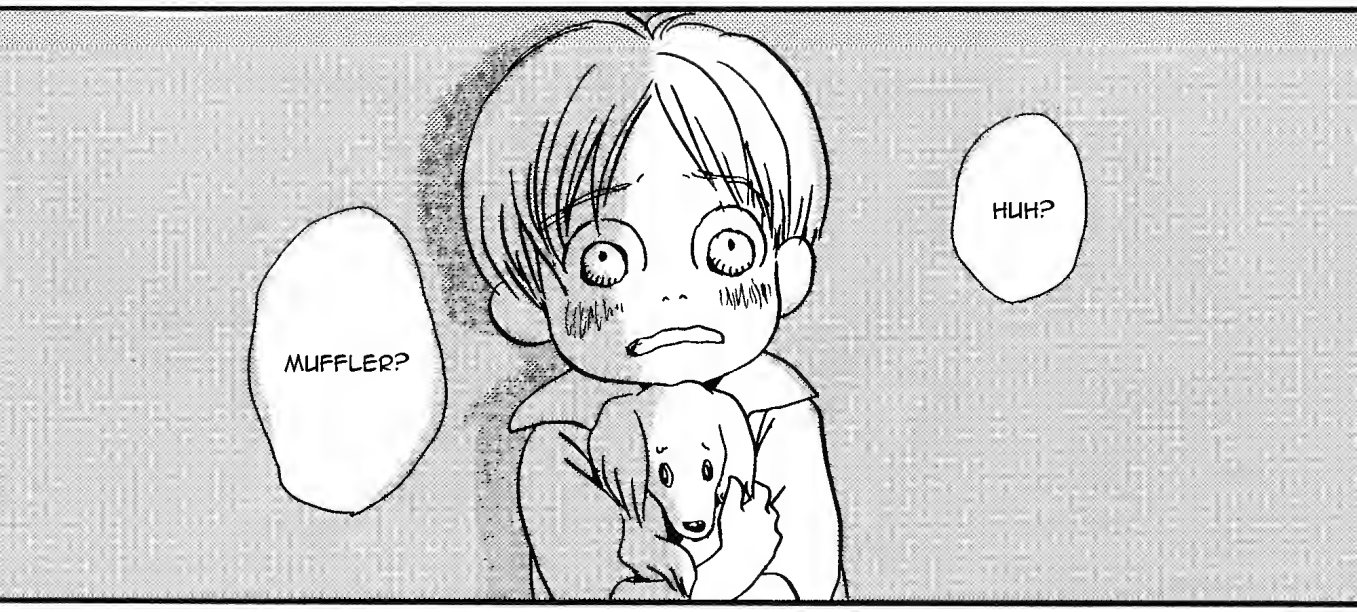

IF IT WAS YASUDA-SAN'S HOME, IT WOULDN'T BE SCARY EVEN IF IT WAS AN EVEN STRONGER WIND OR EVEN LIGHTNING.
IT IS AN EXCEL-LENT RESID-ENCE, ISN'T IT?
YEAH. AFTER ALL, THE WALLS ARE SUPER THICK.
SO...
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?
BECAUSE THAT HOME...
THE LENGTH OF THE OUTSIDE WALL AND THE CORRIDOR WALL ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
I'M SURE THE WALL IS VERY THICK!
I SEE...
THAT WAS WHAT IT WAS, HUH?
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE... WOULD YOU LIKE TO STAY FOR DINNER?
NO, I'VE JUST REMEM-BERED SOMETHING IMPORTANT!
THANK YOU FOR THE TEA! LET'S MEET AGAIN, KIO!
I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG... PANICKING ALL OF A SUDDEN.
"A REAL DETECTIVE"
UNRE-LIABLE AND LOST...
BUT ONE WEEK, HUH?
YOU MIGHT WANNA SEE YASUDA-SAN SOON BUT...

IT'D BE NICE IF I COULD RETURN YOU LATER...
SOMEHOW, I...


YOU FOUND MY MAFU?
KIO!
MAFU?
WHAT'S WRONG?
OKAY, WE'RE HERE!
IT'S YOUR HOME! I WONDER IF YASUDA-SAN IS BACK...

!?
ACK! IT'S SO DIRTY!
!!


I CAN'T MAKE A MUFFLER OUT OF HIS SKIN NOW!
EVEN THOUGH I BOUGHT HIM AT SUCH A HIGH PRICE!!
WHAT!!
HE'S GOT A WOUND ON HIS BACK?
IS THAT IT?!
CAN'T YOU SEE HE'S INJURED?!
UM...
HE FELL DOWN IN THE VALLEY...



NOTE: HE IS ASKING THE DOG

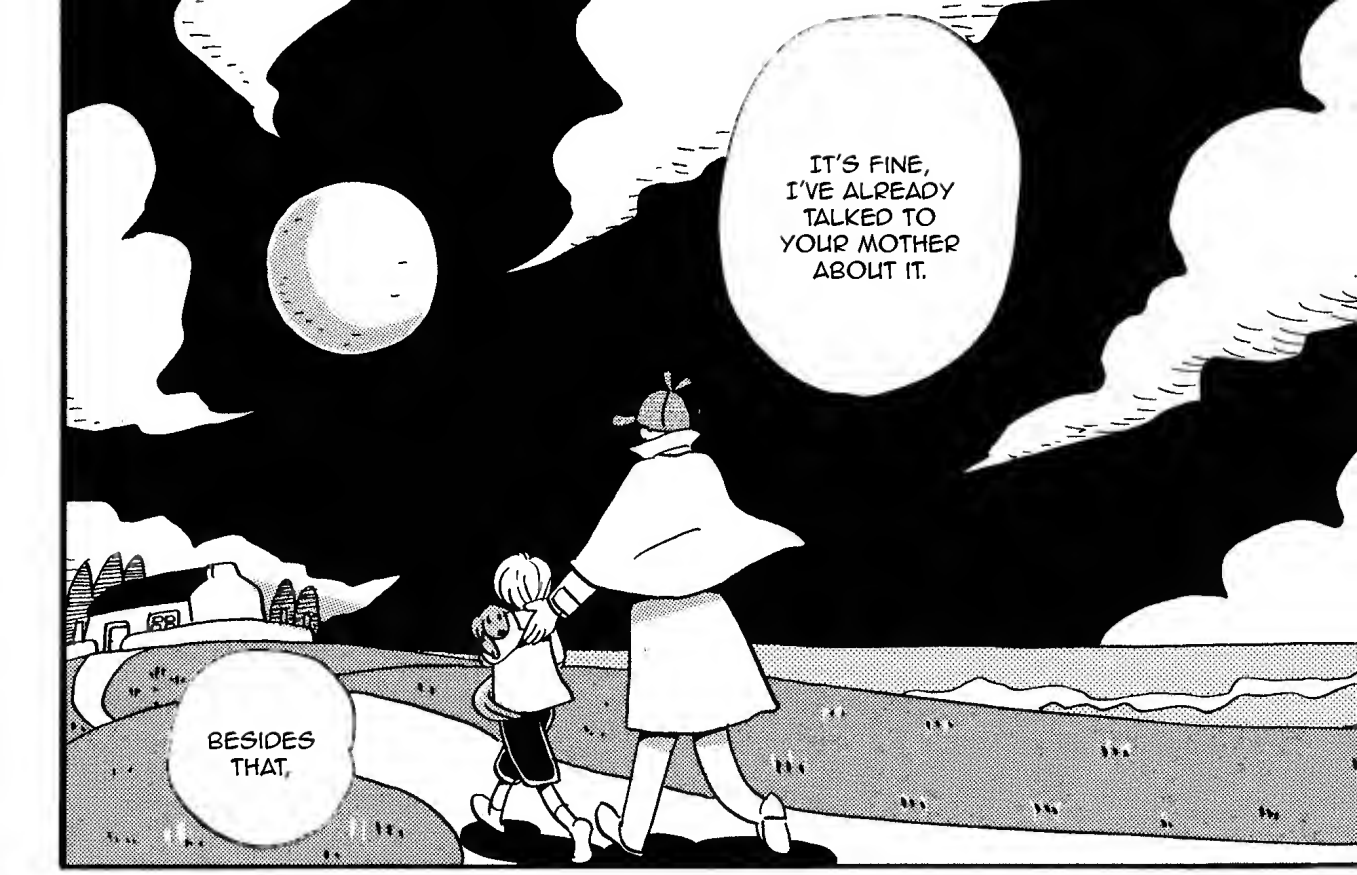
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... EVEN THOUGH I MADE 50 MILLION MALLOWS.
W-WAIT...
WELL, IT'S FRUSTRATING, BUT I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO FOR EAR MUFFS...
UM...
KYA!
HEY!
THIS CHILD
HE'S SCARED, HE'S SO SCARED, BUT EVEN STILL...
I WILL I WILL I WILL
UM... UM...
YA-YASUDA SAN...
I...I...I WILL...
AH, THAT'S IT! I COULD BREED HIM AND OPEN AN AUCTION!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
IF I DO THAT
A TRADER MIGHT WANT ONE!

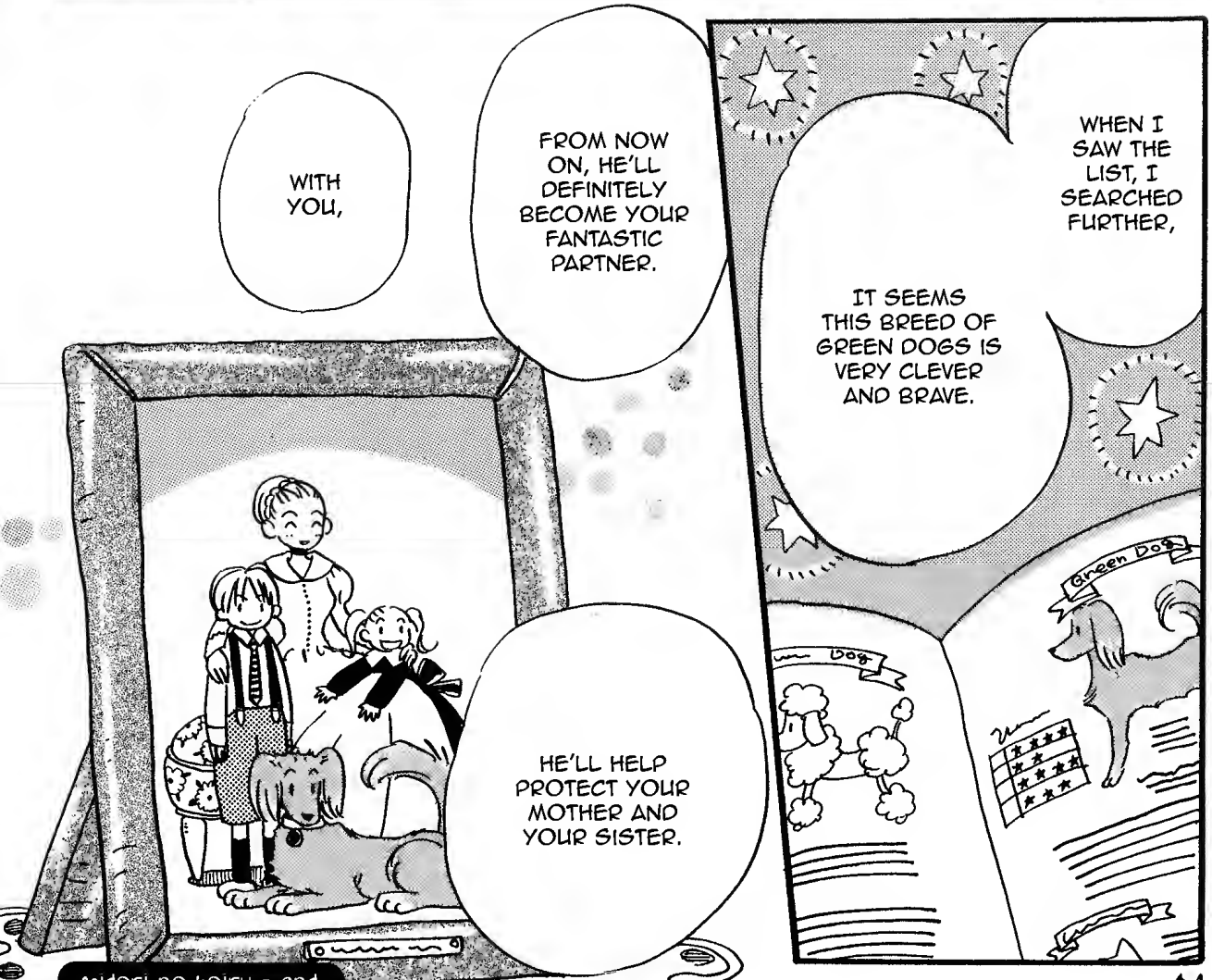
I WONDER IF IT'LL BE A STOLEN GOODS MARKET...
OH?
YOU'RE HOSTING AN AUCTION NOW?
DETECTIVE-SAN?!
DE...
!!
WE'VE SEEN YOUR ENTIRE SECRET ROOM.
SO,
WE WERE ABLE TO MAKE THIS LIST OF STOLEN GOODS.
W-WHAT IS THAT?
THE THINGS HERE WERE BOUGHT WITH NORMAL METHODS!!
IT'S NO USE ARGUING. HE ALREADY CHECKED IT ALL.
P-PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!

THEN...
CAN WE RETURN THE DOG TO HIS REAL OWNER?
INSPECTOR,
IS THIS GREEN DOG IN THIS LIST?
LET'S GO TO THE STATION NOW.
HN.
I WON'T FORGET THIS!
CHIEF.
THERE'S A "GREEN DOG" IN THE LIST.
HM?
HE RAN AWAY ON HIS OWN, SO COULD YOU PUT DOWN "LOCATION UNKNOWN"?
MM...
I SAID IT WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO FIND THE DOG...
WELL,
HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN EATEN BY A WOLF IN THE MOUNTAINS.
BUT...
IF HE WAS RETURNED TO A FUR MERCHANT AND WAS MADE INTO A MUFFLER,
HE'D PROBABLY WOULD HAVE FOUGHT AND DIED.
ALRIGHT,
THE GREEN DOG "LOCATION UNKNOWN" CONFIRMED.

YOU...
YOU WEREN'T A DETECTIVE.
...AND THAT'S IT.
AH!!
THE DOG!
JUST LIKE YOU.
ACTUALLY IT WAS ALWAYS MY DREAM TO BE ONE,
I JUST WANTED TO TRY LOOKING LIKE ONE.
YOUR HINT BECAME THE NUMBER ONE KEY.
BUT, YOU MIGHT JUST REALLY BE A DETECTIVE.

THEN, BEFORE I SENT YOU BACK,
THE SUN HAD ALREADY SET,
AND YOUR MOTHER WAS ALSO WORRIED.
AND THEN AS YOU SAW, BEHIND THE MOUNTAINS, THERE WAS A BOAT WITH THE STOLEN GOODS ON IT.
THERE WAS A PATHWAY INSIDE THE WALL.
BUT, WITH YOUR HINT, IT WAS SOLVED.
WE WERE SUSPECTING AN UNDERGROUND PASSAGE, BUT WE COULDN'T FIND IT.
I WONDER IF MAMA WILL LET ME KEEP THIS DOG.
POLICE INSPEC-TOR TAMIYA,
IT'S POLICE INSPEC-TOR TAMIYA.
HEY DETECTIVE-SAN,
BUT ABOVE ALL, WE'VE GOT TO REPORT YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS




WHEN I SAW THE LIST, I SEARCHED FURTHER,
IT SEEMS THIS BREED OF GREEN DOGS IS VERY CLEVER AND BRAVE.
Green Dog
Dog
FROM NOW ON, HE'LL DEFINITELY BECOME YOUR FANTASTIC PARTNER.
WITH YOU,
HE'LL HELP PROTECT YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR SISTER.

Midori no koiru - end